

TOP SECRET

26 September 1980

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 26 September 1980

The Director chaired the meeting. [ ]

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Lehman suggested that while most eyes are focused on the Iran/Iran

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Stein noted a report that the Soviets had attacked across the border into Pakistan. Clarke highlighted a report that six Soviet helicopters attacked a Pakistani post and there was heavy fire with several Pakistani casualties. He added that reportedly one helicopter was hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed inside Afghanistan. The Director noted that

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[ ] advised that the 1982 budget hearings at OMB with RMS are going well. [ ]

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Noting press attention to Jesse Jackson's allegation that the Director had passed a memorandum to Dr. Brzezinski labeling him a Libyan agent, Hetu confirmed that our position will be "no comment" to the item if queried. The Director and Mr. Carlucci reviewed work with the White House yesterday that was to have produced an appropriate press statement but same has not appeared as yet. [ ]

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Clarke, responding to a query from yesterday, related that the flow of Iraqi oil to the northwest via pipeline amounted to 1.1 million barrels per day and has not been interrupted to date. He added that the flow could be increased by 500K barrels but this would, according to OER, take about a month to effect. [ ]

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Clarke related that the Soviet Brigade in Cuba has returned to their compound following maneuvers. [redacted]

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[redacted]

Hitz related that the Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs of the House Foreign Affairs Committee has rescheduled our briefing on the situation in Nicaragua. [redacted]

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Hitz said Senate floor consideration of the Continuing Appropriation Resolution has been scheduled for 30 September. Later in the meeting, [redacted] observed that if only one House acted on the resolution, expenditure of funds from either 1980 or 1981 appropriation is permissible. [redacted]

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Briefly noting that Congressman Robin Beard is under investigation by the House Armed Services Committee for disclosing information re the SS-18 silos, Hitz said he had spoken with Congressmen Ford and Stratton about same. Hitz expressed disappointment that Identities Legislation did not come up yesterday but is on a very crowded schedule for House action on 1 October. He noted that the ACLU, through Senators Gravel and Weicker, had contributed to the delay. The Director said that last evening at dinner Congressman Solarz mentioned that he had received something in the mail listing 10 or 15 newspaper stories that would not have been permissible under Identities Legislation and would cause litigation. He requested the General Counsel to take a position on each and Hitz will obtain from Solarz' office. [redacted]

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Wortman introduced [redacted] recently named DDA Executive Officer, and observed that she would be attending some meetings in the absence of the DDA and A/DDA. [redacted]

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[ ] said that the House Appropriations Committee has requested a briefing on the cost of APEX. The Director observed that this can be handled by [ ] who should make sure that DoD costing is clarified and expressed concern that their figures do not take into account the current document control procedures cost. [ ]

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B. C. Evans

Attachment

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## Libyan Warplanes in Patrol Confrontation

By George C. Wilson

Washington Post Staff Writer

Three Navy F14 fighters chased a group of Libyan warplanes piloted by Syrians away from an Air Force electronic eavesdropping aircraft in a confrontation this week, government sources said yesterday.

It was the second time in less than a week that Libyan fighters harassed an American reconnaissance C135 plane flying in international airspace some 200 miles off Libya, officials asserted.

The C135 was unprotected by fighter escorts in the first incident on Sept. 16. American intercepts of conversations between the pilots of two Libyan planes and their ground control post near Tripoli revealed that they were told to fire missiles at the C135 in that earlier confrontation.

Intercepts indicated that each Libyan plane fired one missile. But the crew of the C135 saw neither missiles nor planes as they patrolled the edge of Libyan airspace, and only heard the conversation, sources said.

Presumably for want of conclusive evidence, the State Department neither disclosed the Sept. 16 incident nor lodged any public protest to Tripoli. However, the Carter administration ordered the Navy to protect the Air Force's eavesdropper C135 on its next mission off Libya.

The C135 took off on Sunday, with one F14 fighter armed with Phoenix air-to-air missiles flying beside it as protector. Libyan fighters scrambled when they saw the radar track of the C135, sources said.

Since ground control sent four Libyan French-built Mirage and four Soviet-supplied Mig fighters aloft, the plan might have been to surround the C135 and force it to land in Libya.

But the Navy had planned a surprise for the Libyan planes this second time around.

As the Libyan planes maneuvered to jump the C135, a military version of the 707 passenger airliner and thus an easy target for supersonic fighters, an additional two Navy F14 fighters launched from the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy roared out of their hiding places to join the C135.

Faced with three F14s instead of only one, the Libyan planes called their ground commanders for instructions. They were told, according to the intercepted conversations, to break off the engagement.

The intercepts revealed that the radio instructions from the ground to the Libyan planes were in Syrian, confirming for the U.S. government its suspicions that the pilots were Syrian.

All this indicates that tensions between Washington and Tripoli are mounting at the same time President Carter is looking for ways to contain the war between Iran and Iraq.

It is not known whether Carter will risk further conflict in the skies off Libya by continuing to send fighter-escorted C135s on their eavesdropping missions.

Publicly, administration officials are refusing to acknowledge even that the confrontations in the skies have occurred.

Asked about them yesterday at the Pentagon's regular news briefing, spokesman Thomas B. Ross limited himself to "no comment."